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HANGED.

Execution of Joseph Walker, Colored, for Murder.

Full Particulars of the Hanging. The Crime for Which Walker Suffered the Penalty of Death.

[Special to the Democrat.]

LAKE PROVIDENCE, LA., April 2.—To-day Joseph Walker, colored, convicted at the December term of the District Court of this parish for lying in wait and murdering Major Gray, colored, suffered the penalty of the law by hanging. The day opened cloudy and rainy, but nowithstanding this the colored sovereigns from all sections of the parish commenced pouring into town early in the morning, and began to gather around the scaffold.

By 9 o'clock at least 3000 persons were present. The prisoner was taken from the jail to the scaffold, just outside the yard, at 12 o'clock, accompanied by the jailer and Deputy Sheriffs Glenn and Scott, and a colored minister. After ascending the scaffold he made a few remarks, declaring his innocence as to shooting the man, but stated that he was in company with another man who did it, and claimed that his sins were forgiven, and he was certain of Heaven. The minister made some few remarks, when the rope was adjusted, and at about fifteen minutes to 1 the trap was sprung. He struggled but little, and in eight minutes all signs of life were extinct. The crowd was quiet and orderly, and the event seems to make a profound sensation.

Joseph Walker was employed on the plantation of Mr. George C. Benham, in East Carroll parish. He was of the coarser kind of plantation hands and violent and brutal in disposition. A rivalry for the affections of a woman sprung up between him and a fellow-laborer named Major Gray, and quarrels frequently took place between them, the most notable of which occurred a short time before the murder. In this blows were frequently exchanged.

Walker finally left the plantation, and peace prevailed there for a time. It was only for a short time, however, as about ten days after the quarrel alluded to, and on Saturday, October 11 last, Gray went to a store near by to get some groceries, and was mortally wounded on his return home. He had selected the evening for his shopping, and when he was wending his way back to his cabin it was dark. He had nearly completed his return trip when the gun of the assassin arrested him in his progress, riddling him with buckshot and fatally wounding him.

The report of the gun attracted the attention of people in the vicinity who found Gray in the condition described, but yet conscious. He was taken to his cabin, where every effort was made to save him, but without avail. Among the callers was Joseph Walker, who simulated great innocence and regret at the mishap of his former foe, but the latter protested that Walker was the murderer, notwithstanding his effrontery and coolness.

Gray died that evening and the following day Walker was arrested. At the ensuing term of the District Court he was tried and convicted, several persons testifying to seeing him armed shortly before the shooting. His housekeeper testified that when he returned home that evening, becoming irritated by something which had occurred in the domestic arrangements, he threatened her by saying he had already that evening killed a man. There was a great deal of other evidence leaving no doubt of the guilt of the accused.

EUREKA!

Edison's Latest and Most Wonderful Discovery.

Edison has made, if possible, even a greater discovery than that with which he startled the world some time last year, when he found the wonderful properties of a piece of charred paper. He has, by an accident, discovered how to extract fabulous riches from the tailings or refuse of mines, by a simple and inexpensive method. How he does it is of course a secret, but that he does it admits of no doubt whatever. The following extracts are from a very interesting article in the New York *Herald* of the twenty-ninth of March:

EDISON'S EUREKA.

Edison claims that he has this secret. He asserts that he has discovered a combination by which all these vast wastes of gold in certain mines can be recovered in a both simple and effective manner. The agents he employs are chemistry and electricity.

What the process is only himself and a few trusted assistants know; but whatever it is he exhibits as its results the undoubted gold. He takes a quantity of tailings, which, so far as any known process is concerned, contain not a trace of gold, and by a wizard-like manipulation of chemicals he produces therefrom the precious metal in quantities simply astonishing. He states that by his method he had got out gold from concentrated tailings at the enormous ratio, in some instances of $1400 per ton, at an expense not exceeding $5 per ton—a result which, if true, will eclipse in pecuniary value to him even his European telephone, with its enormous yield in royalties, and make him a veritable Crœsus.

A FORTUNATE OBSTACLE.

The history of his great discovery dates from early last summer, and owes its origin to what appeared at the time to be an insurmountable obstacle to the success of his electric light. The light at that time, for it was before his discovery of the remarkable properties of charred paper, was produced from thin spirals of platinum made luminous by the passage of an electric current. For the general introduction of the system immense quantities of platinum would, he saw, be needed, and the serious fact stared him in the face that the new demand for the metal would, in all likelihood, enhance its value, already as high as $6 an ounce, to such a figure that the light would in time cease to be economical. This was all the more likely because of the limited number of known platinum mines—those of Borneo, the United States of Colombia and the Ural Mountains of Russia furnishing about the entire supply for the world. In his dilemma the scientist had before him two courses—either he must find some substitute for platinum in his electric light or discover new platinum mines. He determined upon the latter course, and dispatched agents in all directions in search of the precious metal. He also wrote to miners in different sections of the country explaining the characteristics of the metal and suggesting where and how it might be found, offering at the same time appropriate compensation if they discovered any in paying quantities. Before many weeks answers came pouring in to Menlo Park, together with scores of samples of sand in which the microscope revealed traces of platinum. With these samples Edison at once began experimenting with a view to eliminate the platinum.

* * * * *

ON THE TRACK.

A history of the experiments that Edison tried before he alighted on the Eureka discovery would fill a volume. To get gold out of the tailing samples sent him was at first furthest from his thoughts. He wanted platinum and only platinum. All his energies and the entire resources of his large chemical laboratory were directed to that one end, and it might be said the gold discovery was thrust upon him. Dr. Alfred Haid, his chief chemical assistant, relates at the present time, with not a little humor, the annoyance the finding of gold was at first to Edison. Again and again after subjecting a quantity of tailings to his process, and finding as the result not a residue of platinum but a little heap of gold, he would disdainfully throw away the shining particles. One day, however, it occurred to him that perhaps it would be well as a diversion to pay more attention to the gold and see what he could do in that direction. With that in view he renewed his experimenting. The results were astonishing. Tailings that under the microscope revealed scarcely a trace of the precious metal, and from which panning with mercury none were obtained, were found to be quite rich in it. Platinum now grew to be a thing of but little concern. The enthusiasm that time and again, in all ages and in all countries, has invaded the sanctum of the scientist and the alchemist in the search for that which moves the world took possession of Edison. He saw before his eyes a wonderful discovery. It seemed hardly possible that he had succeeded. The process that he used was devised to extract platinum only, which does not amalgamate with mercury, and, moreover, it was cheap and simple.

DOUBTING HIS OWN DISCOVERY.

Then came the fear that the particular tailings sent had been "salted," and that after all his process would be valueless. The test of this was easy. He procured tailings which he knew had been worked again and again by Chinamen until even they discarded them as worthless, and from these he obtained gold in paying quantities. Difficult as it was for Edison to convince himself of what he had achieved it was far more difficult for him to convince his laboratory assistants. When he assured them that he was getting out gold from discarded tailings by an application of electricity they laughed at him, as they had done three years before when he made the assertion that he could succeed in making a piece of tin foil reproduce the human voice. Dr. Haid, under whose observations nearly all the experiments were made, was for a long time as skeptical as those who were not identified with the work, and it was not until after many weeks that he was willing to admit that indeed the Wizard was right.

SECURING THE TAILINGS.

Satisfied that he had beyond doubt got a bonanza Mr. Edison promptly set about securing rights to the tailings from whose samples he had obtained gold. The Edison Ore Milling Company was formed, with James H. Banker as president, Charles H. Lewis, vice president, and Robert L. Cutting, Jr., as treasurer. The inventor took a seat in the board of directors. Contracts were soon made by which were secured millions of tons of tailings. All the tailings of the Spring Valley Hydraulic Mining Company, which are washed down at the rate of 15,000 tons a day, and cover a tract of several square miles, were secured for a term of years. The Powers-Oroville Mining Company, on the Feather river, was contracted with for their tailings, which cover a large tract. Contracts were also made for the tailings of the Myocene Mining Company and other large hydraulic mines in the vicinity of Oroville.

After the contract with the Powers Company had been concluded it is related that when Mr. Powers, better known in his section of California as Jackson County Powers, an old Forty-niner, came to Menlo Park to satisfy himself regarding Edison's assertions as to the richness of hydraulic tailings, he brought with him two bages of tailings from his mine, which had been twice worked, and knowingly imparted the fact to a few friends that Edison couldn't fool him. He would like to see Edison or any one else get very much gold out of these bags. He handed the sand to the inventor personally. Edison before his eyes went through the process, and in fifteen minutes handed him, as the result, a dollar's worth of gold. The Californian left the laboratory with eyebrows elevated.

Another skeptic became convinced when gold obtained from a small heap of tailing was presented to him in the shape of a strip seven inches long, one wide and of the thickness of an ordinary business card.

Railroad Officials in Savannah.

SAVANNAH, Ga., April 4.—Messrs. Newcomb, Defouiak and others of the Louisville and Nashville road, who arrived here Friday night, visited various places of interest yesterday, and were especially pleased with the extensive commercial facilities of the city. They made an excursion to the sea in one of the New York steamers, returning to the city in a tugboat. It is understood that everything is arranged satisfactorily between the railroads forming the through line from the East to Savannah.

The Approaching Sale of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad.

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 4.—Attorney General Youmans, of this State, has served upon parties interested in the approaching sale of the Greenville and Columbia railroad notice of a motion which he has made in the State Court to increase the minimum bid from $1,000,000 to $2,300,000 with view of protecting the State in its guaranty of the bonds to that amount. The day for hearing of motion is not yet fixed.

Grant to be Invited to Memphis.

MEMPHIS, April 4.—Gen. Grant is to be invited to accept the hospitalities of Memphis. A meeting of prominent citizens is called for to-morrow, when a committee will be appointed and arrangements perfected. Among the events will be a grand military display and a banquet at the Peabody Hotel.

FIFTH WARD CLUBS IN CONFERENCE.

At a conference of the various clubs of the fifth ward, held yesterday noon at the Young Men's Headquarters, corner Toulouse and Rampart streets, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the fifth ward delegates (to be elected on the tenth of April, 1880) are hereby instructed to select as delegates of the First Congressional District to the Cincinnati national nominating convention, none but men who will bind themselves to secure by all possible means the insertion of a clause in the national platform of the Democratic party pledging national aid in the reconstruction and maintenance of the Mississippi levees.

Resolved further, That it is the wish of the voters of the fifth ward, duly represented in this conference of their clubs, that the delegates of the First Congressional District in the Cincinnati national nominating convention vote for Winfield S. Hancock as Presidential nominee of the national Democratic party, on the first ballot, and that they be guided thereafter in their ballots by their best appreciation of the interests of the party.

MORE MILITARY MATTERS.

Gen. Augustus Reichard having received his commission from Gov. L. A. Wiltz as commander of the Second Brigade, has chosen the following staff, whose names will no doubt be confirmed to-day:

Lieut. Col. W. C. H. Robinson, Crescent City Battalion, assistant adjutant general.

Major Edgar A. Farrar, Crescent City Battalion, assistant inspector general.

Major H. Dudley Coleman, Washington Artillery, brigade quartermaster.

Major J. H. H. Hedge, Washington Artillery, brigade ordnance officer.

Major Maximilian Hermann, German Battalion, brigade commissary.

Major F. Loeber, German Battalion, brigade medical director.

Capt. Frank A. Behan, Washington Artillery, aide-de-camp.

In this connection, we regret to state that Brig. Gen. John Glynn, Jr., has sent in his resignation, and of course his staff follows him out of the rolls of the militia. It is to be hoped that the General may be persuaded to reconsider his action, as the State can ill afford to lose so valuable an officer.

THE MORGAN ROAD.

The Morgan Railroad authorities announce elsewhere, that local and Teche freights will be received as usual on and after to-day. The receiving of Texas freights will be resumed in a day or two. The officers of the company have done all that energy could accomplish to the end that traffic should not be interrupted, and it is pleasant to hear that their efforts have not been fruitless.

EAGLE NO. 7.

At the annual meeting of the exempt society of Eagle Steam Fire Company No. 7, held yesterday, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year: A. Mauberret president; S. C. Brodowski, secretary; V. Raffo, treasurer. Relief committee—A. Mauberret, chairman; S. C. Brodowski, V. Raffo, J. Hyland, J. Banur.

Dolbear Commercial College, 203 Canal street.

FOREIGN NEWS.

More of the Liberal Victory in England—Gladstone Unwilling to Take Office.

The Queen Informed of the Conservative Defeat—The South American War—The Peruvians Get Supplies Into the Besieged Port of Arica.

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, April 4.—In a second article on the consequences of the Liberal victory, the *Spectator* says: It is a severe blow to the Tory Democracy. The next man who professes faith in the monarch and the multitude, must appeal to the latter on socialist grounds, or undertake enterprises requiring sacrifices that will restore people to their senses. No other man will ever wave the banner of prestige, as Lord Beaconsfield has done, without striking a stroke for it. In the second place, we are rid of personal government. It is, however, in its effect abroad that the Liberal victory will be most far-reaching. We do not believe there will be joy at St. Petersburg at all.

Russia distrusts certain views of the Liberal chiefs, and especially Gladstone, far more than she dreads a ministry which can be coerced into secret compacts. But millions of Greeks, Armenians and Bulgarians will rejoice at the prospect of a new career made possible to them, and this rejoicing will be feeble compared with the exultation of our own millions in India, no longer taxed to death in order that a premier may pose as arbiter of the destinies of Central Asia. England can bear with equanimity that Prince Bismarck is sorrowful and Baron Haymerle worried, if throughout the world all freemen feel as if with the tory Democratic government of England a miasmatic cloud had beed rolled away.

The London *Observer* of this morning says: "We understand there will be no decision whether the government shall resign at once or await an adverse vote of Parliament, until the exact number of the Liberal majority is ascertained." After the result of the polling on Friday became known, a special messenger was sent to Baden-Baden with dispatches for the Queen. We have reason to believe that Mr. Gladstone disapproved of the arrangement suggested in various quarters that he accept a subordinate office in the new administration. He still adheres to his intention of not resuming office, but will cordially support the recognized Liberal leaders, Earl Granville and the Marquis of Hartington.

SOUTH AMERICA.

NEW YORK, March 4.—The following dispatch, dated Lima, March 27, via Panama, April 3, has been received by the Charge d'Affairs of Peru from Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Don Pedro Jose Calderon. The Corvette Union forced the blockade of Arica, fighting seven hours with two Chililan ironclads and a transport. She discharged her entire cargo while fighting, and has returned to Callao. The Union was undoubtedly sent from Callao with arms and ammunition for Peruvians in the blockaded port of Arica, probably under command of Capt. Villavicencio, and has succeeded in her errand, despite the Chillian blockading vessels.

POLITICAL.

Republican County Conventions in Iowa in Favor of Blaine.

DES MOINES, April 4.—Twelve or fifteen Republican county conventions were held in Iowa yesterday. The *State Register* has returns from eight of them, favoring an instructed Blaine delegation to Chicago.

THE MISSOURI REPUBLICANS FOR GRANT.

ST. LOUIS, April 4.—The Republican county conventions for the election of delegates to Chicago were held in this State yesterday. Of thirteen counties heard from seven have been instructed to vote for Grant, one for Blaine, two presumably for Grant, and three send mixed delegations.

THE MISSOURI GREENBACKERS.

ST. LOUIS, April 4.—Butler J. Hill, chairman of the Executive State Committee of the National Greenback Labor party, has issued a call for a convention to be held in each congressional district of the State on May 20, to choose delegates to the National Greenback Convention.

THE ANTI-GRANT MOVEMENT.

ST. LOUIS, April 4.—Emory S. Foster, secretary of the Anti-Third Term Committee, states that assurances of co-operation have been received from Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota Kentucky, Kansas, Illinois, Ohio, Arkansas, Iowa and New York.

THE STATE CONTENTION.

Election of Delegates to the State Convention From Several Parishes.

EAST FELICIANA.

ROOMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Parish of East Feliciana, Clinton, La., March 27, 1880.

At a call meeting of the Executive Committee of the parish of East Feliciana held this day, the following delegates were elected to represent said parish in the State Convention to be held in the city of New Orleans on the twelfth day of April, 1880:

First Ward—W. B. Porter, T. C. McKowen.
Second Ward—J. A. Norwood, B. M. G. Brown.
Third Ward—Alfred Hazard, W. H. Pipes.
Fourth Ward—A. J. Norwood, E. J. Boatner.
Fifth Ward—Henry Skipwith, G. W. Munday.
Sixth Ward—J. P. Haney, L. Mahony.
Seventh Ward—R. D. Rowley, D. W. Pipes.
Eighth Ward—J. A. White, H. M. Poole.

There being no further business, the committee adjourned subject to call.

J. A. RAMSEY, President pro tem.
D. J. WEDGE, Secretary.

CLAIBORNE.

In pursuance to the call of Capt. Price, chairman, the Executive Committee of Claiborne met in Homer on the twenty-seventh instant. The secretary being absent, J. W. McFarland was elected secretary pro tem.

The committee then proceeded to appoint the following delegates to the State Convention, to be held in New Orleans April 12, 1880:

Hon. John R. Phipps, Hon. A. L. Atkins, H. W. Kirkpatrick, Judge J. C. Egan, W. P. Otts, W. L. Oakes, J. W. O'Banon, Alex. Weil, J. J. Duke, J. H. Chappell and J. H. Curry, that being the number of delegates the parish is entitled to on the basis of the vote cast for Gov. Wiltz in 1879.

We recommend that our delegates use their best endeavors to prevent the State Convention from giving the delegates to the National Convention any instructions in reference to the nomination of a Presidential ticket.

On motion and second it was resolved that our delegates who are present cast the full vote of the parish.

There being no further business, the committee adjourned.

THOS. PRICE, Chairman.
J. W. MCFARLAND, Secretary pro tem.

HIGH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

The New Orleans *Bee* published yesterday morning the following complimentary letter from Mr. Ferdinand de Lesseps:

NEW YORK, March 30, 1880.

Managing Editor New Orleans Bee:

Dear Sir—I cannot leave America without thanking you for the zealous and intelligent support which you have lent to the Panama Canal project. You have thereby taken the position of a true champion of the interests of the United States and of the great port of New Orleans, which needs so greatly a rapid and easy outlet to the Pacific, whither so many rich countries, now steadily developing their resources, invite her commerce.

I greatly regret not to have been able on this occasion to visit New Orleans; but I trust that I will soon be able to do so, and I look forward with sincere pleasure to that time.

Again let me beg of you to accept my thanks. I remain, dear sir, yours very devoutly,

FERDINAND DE LESSEPS.

THE CREVASSE.

The Efforts Made by the State Engineers to Close it, and Its Present Condition.

Yesterday there was no appreciable change it the crevasse below Westwego, at Sharp's place. The water was still rushing through with the same force, and Col. T. S. Hardee, of the State Board of Engineers, was up there all day and during the night superintending the work.

The practical business of closing the crevasse was well under way yesterday and Col. Hardee is very hopeful of being able to stop the break in a few days. It is proposed to make a protection on the river side of the break very much in the shape of a horseshoe, and the driving of piles in this manner is in progress.

Inasmuch as the position of the State Board of Engineers towards this matter has been subjected to adverse criticism, a DEMOCRAT reporter yesterday endeavored to find Col. Hardee, but learning that he was up at the crevasse, sought an attache of the office, from whom the following was obtained:

THE STATE ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

The first information received at the Engineer's office of the break was at 1:30 o'clock p. m., April 1, and between 3 and 4 o'clock Col. Hardee had chartered a tug and was on the ground. There he met the representatives of Chas. A. Whitney & Co., and made an arrangement by which that firm could furnish the labor and its subsistence and the State Engineer's department would supply superintendents and material. The work already commenced was stopped, as it consisted of only fence pickets driven in. Experience has so frequently proved that, instead of doing any good, this aggravates the evil, as no sooner is the semicircle completed than the force of the water carries away the whole work; and owing to its slight penetration, the pickets being driven only by hand, sweeps with it more or less of the ends of the levees.

It was determined to erect a coffer-dam of 4x4 timber, and a tug for the pile-driver at Bonnet Carre, represented to be in excellent condition, was immediately sent. Owing to the wind and the darkness of the night it did not arrive until the next morning, when it was found that the break was so wide as to necessitate heavier piking. Pending the sending for pile-drivers and materials, all attention was directed to securing the ends to prevent further breakage, which proved eminently successful. On the first pile the driver broke the nippers, and a delay was necessary for repairs. Another pile-driver was sent up Friday by Whitney & Co., but could not be got to work until Saturday morning, as the anchors sent with her were not sufficient to hold her, and although extra ones were supplied Friday night the man in charge refused to go on until Saturday morning.

All day Saturday the drivers were at work closing up from both ends of the crevass. The Whitney & Co.'s one stopped last night from a want of relay of night workmen, but they were all again at work and were reinforced during the day by a third and more powerful one, kindly lent by Maj. Howell, with every prospect of finishing the work and closing it in a few days.

Col. Hardee and his assistants are using every energy to close the crevasse, and though the work is an herculean one, they are very hopeful of success.

SUNDAY AT AMES CHURCH.

Gen. Grant Attends the Morning Services—His Further Movements.

Yesterday morning Gen. and Mrs. Grant, in company with Gen. Cyrus Bussey and family, attended the services at the Ames Church, Rev. G. R. Bristor, the pastor, officiating. The chancel was literally crowded with flowers, and the church was filled to overflowing with worshipers. Mr. Bristor took as his text the twelfth chapter of St. John and thirty-second verse:

"And I if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto me." The Doctor throughout held the large audience to the closest attention. Some no doubt came to see Gen. Grant alone, but went away with new thoughts to ponder over. A thorough report of the sermon would no doubt be interesting, but the gestures, the tones of the Doctor, cannot be reproduced on paper. To thoroughly appreciate the talents of this gifted divine one must see and hear him.

AT THE CONCLUSION

of the services, the General, in company with Gen. Bussey and Doctor Bristor, finding it impossible to obtain egress through the front door, passed out at the rear, through the Doctor's study, and after running the gauntlet of a few colored citizens, who had detected the rear and flank movement, and insisted on shaking hands with the "Gineral," were driven to Gen. Bussey's beautiful residence on St. Charles, near Jackson street, where they dined, Capt. Eads coming in and forming one of the dinner party.

GEN. BUSSEY

informed the DEMOCRAT reporter that the programme of Gen. Grant, attending the rowing match at the Lake End to-day in a special train provided for him by the railroad company, will be carried out. Returning thence, he will attend the grand banquet to be given him at the St. Charles Hotel by 150 of our leading citizens. The General, in his capacity as chairman of the citizens' committee of arrangements, stated to the reporter that the trip to the jetties was under his control, and no person would be allowed on the boat without a ticket of invitation. The John W. Cannon, bearing Gen. Grant, Gov. Wiltz and other guests, will leave on Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock.

CAPT. EADS

accompanies the excursionists, and will no doubt add largely to the interest of the occasion. Parties who have received verbal invitations to go on the trip should at once apply to Gen. Bussey for something more substantial. It is supposed, of course, that the party will stop at some of the large plantations along the route, and in fact to investigate the river and surroundings pretty generally.

THE RECEPTION

that was to be tendered to-day to Gen. Grant by the Colored Men's Protective Union at the residence of P. B. S. Pinchback, has been postponed at the request of the General, whose engagements prevent him from attending, to Wednesday from 12 to 2.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW CELEBRATION.

The members of the "Society of St. Bartholomew the Apostle," which was organized about a year since by the Italian residents of this city, mustered in force yesterday on the occasion of the first anniversary of their society. The occasion was commemorated by a parade through the principal streets and addresses, with the usual attendants, at their hall.

An interesting incident of the parade occurred when the society and its invited guests, on reaching the corner of Rampart and Conti streets, filed into the Church of St. Anthony of Padua, and had the beautiful new banner of the association solemnly blessed, after the impressive forms of the Catholic Church.

AT LEADFIELDS.

The match at Leadfields shot yesterday by the members of the Crescent City Gun Club for the Tott's cup was witnessed by quite a crowd of visitors. Messrs. A. Cardona, Sr., J. Collins and B. DeRoux tied, making 13 in a possible 15. Ties were shot and decided in favor of Mr. Collins.

The match now stands, B. DeRoux two claims, A. Cardona Jr. one claim, J. Collins one claim.

Dolbear Commercial College, 203 Canal street.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

[The DEMOCRAT is responsible for none of the views expressed in the communications under this head; but no communications will be printed except from responsible parties.]

AN OPEN LETTER FOR THE TEACHERS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the Democrat:

I see by an editorial in your columns this morning that it is proposed to add an amendment to Senate bill No. 148, which would secure a measure of relief to the suffering unpaid teachers of our public schools. I am a parent of children in those schools and know well the privations they are enduring. Friends grow tired of helping creditors, get disgusted and refuse further credit, and the teachers are fast coming to that point where the wolves of famine and misery are at the door. Therefore I have a suggestion to make to the teachers. Heaven helps those who help themselves. It is the old story of the man who appealed to the gods for help, and was told to put his own shoulder to the wheel. There is no use in appealing to the Legislature if they sit back and appear indifferent. I hear this remark made whenever I speak of their wrongs. The suggestion I would make is this: let the schools be closed on the day the bill is to come up and all the teachers go in person to the State-House. The directors will surely be willing, because those gentlemen must feel terribly the fact that they cannot pay those they employed, trusting to the honor of the State, and the citizen parents of their pupils will surely sustain them. We advise that they ascertain on what day this week the bill will be up, and come down like an avalanche in all the dignity of their just claim to request payment from the State. They should remember that this is the last week of the session, and but little time remains to them. Perhaps it would also be well to call a mass meeting of our citizens to assist them in pushing this matter. We parents ask the aid of the press in this matter, and a copy of this will be sent to every paper in the city.

A PARENT AND TAXPAYER.

New Orleans, April 3, 1880.

VALIANT PEELERS.

Three Rowdies Held at Bay by Nine Conservators of the Peace.

There was quite an excitement in and about the Poydras market at 8 o'clock yesterday morning, caused by the abortive attempt of nine policemen to arrest three disturbers of the peace. It seems that Jack Doyle and Jim McGarrigan, two "boys" on their muscle, were winding up their Saturday night's carousal by bulldozing an

INOFFENSIVE OLD BOOTBLACK

whose stand is at the corner of Poydras and Rampart. They did succeed in scoring a victory over the old man, and after knocking down and scattering his boxes and brushes, they sailed into an adjoining coffee-house and took a drink apiece in commemoration of their valor.

Just then Officer Cheevers, of the First Precinct, interposed and advised the men to go home, otherwise they would be arrested for disturbance of the peace. These heroes, who had gained a signal victory over a dilapidated African, could not brook the idea of being talked to by a minion of the law, a vulgar "peeler," so they picked up a few glasses and a quantity of bottles, which were soon humming unpleasantly about the ears of Cheevers. Some of the missiles struck the officer, who, let it be said in justice to him,

STOOD WELL HIS GROUND,

until finding himself bruised, bleeding and overpowered, he retreated to the station for assistance.

In a few minutes Officers Curley, Sullivan, Doody and Haley hove in sight of the expectant crowd about the Poydras Market. They walked up and down the market, telling the people to "stand back," but making no effort to find out the perpetrators of the attack on Cheevers. Presently a consultation was held between them, and one of their number started on a cruise for assistance. Officers H. Knupfer, A. Fasnacht, J. Kenny and Sinclair were, one by one, called from their respective beats in the neighborhood to assist their confreres. All together, the policemen marched away to find the disturbers of the peace, followed by at least 500 people. In a coffee-house at the corner of Poydras and Rampart, the two men were seen drinking.

They came out of the saloon in company with one Gallagher. The latter, when the police approached, made some remarks to the effect that no policeman would dare arrest him or any of his friends.

Officer Haley made a grab at Gallagher, who with nimble feet vaulted about, ducked his head and

BUTTED HALEY

on the nose. The sight of blood streaming down Haley's face did not have exactly the same effect on the peelers that it usually does on pugnacious individuals. The policemen drew into line and stood like statues, whilst the two, emboldened by their success, linked their arms together and defied the whole police force to take them in. Then did the valorous conservators of the peace march off in Indian file to report at the Central Station that an officer had been beaten by two parties who

MADE THEIR ESCAPE.

Fortunately the reporters got wind of the affair and found out the particulars.

A more disgraceful affair has never yet happened in this city, reflecting so much discredit and ridicule upon the police force.

Chief Boylan was justly incensed at the conduct of his men, and gave orders that each one of the participants make a report in writing of the whole affair. He said that if nine policemen could furnish such a pitiable spectacle as they did in failing to arrest three men, they ought to be suspended from duty immediately. It is the chief's intention to have a full and thorough investigation of the report that the officers failed to do their duty.

Capt. Bat Galvin gave a sharp talk to some of the officers concerned in the case, and evinced his determination to deal rigidly with such as would be found guilty of dereliction of duty. "It is the first time," said the Captain, "that I am ashamed of being a police captain, all through the conduct of

NINE INEFFICIENT OFFICERS.

This action of those men will reflect on the whole police force, among whom it cannot be denied there are good and trustworthy officers.

Sergeant O'Rourke happened to be about the scene of the disturbance in its inception, that is, a few moments after the assault on Cheevers. According to his own statement made in Capt. Galvin's office last night, the Sergeant was passing that locality on his way to breakfast. Seeing a crowd about the coffee-house, he stopped to ascertain the cause of it, and remonstrated with Doyle and McGarrigan for having thrown glasses. He saw no disturbance and remarked to several parties that this was not his precinct and he had nothing to do with the occurrence. If this affair is to be investigated, it is to be hoped, whoever the parties at fault be, that they will receive their just dues.

Up to a late hour last night neither Doyle, McGarrigan nor Gallagher had been arrested.

A HEAVY LOSS.

A Lady Loses a Package Worth Seven Hundred Dollars.

About two weeks ago, one of the two Misses McGuire, residing at No. 45 Constance street, whilst going to church, dropped a package containing valuable documents, and $700 in cash. This happened at the corner of Magazine and Melpomene. It is only at the end of this week that the police were apprised of this fact, and immediately Aids Pecora and Gaster started to work up the case. They found out that on the morning of the twenty-first of March the package was picked up by two boys eight and ten years, respectively, whose parents, the Quigleys, reside on Constance street. The youngest, Edward, put the package in his pocket and had reached the corner of Camp and Thalia, when he was stopped by another boy, aged apparently about 12 years, who snatched the money from the little fellow, saying it belonged to him.

The name of the boy is unknown, but the aids are on the track of the money, and are almost sure to find out where it has gone and who succeeded in getting the $700 away from the boy who had obtained it from Ed. Quigley. This loss falls heavily on the two ladies, as the money was a part of thirty years' hard savings. They had drawn the amount from a bank on the day previous, and were on their way to put it, by in case of need.

A BLOODLESS AFFAIR.

A Dispute Satisfactorily Settled After an Exchange of Shots.

A duel, the cause of which was a practical joke perpetrated on All Fool's Day, came off yesterday morning at Biloxi, Miss. The principals were Capt. Anthony Sambola and Major Chris. C. Cain. The misunderstanding between the two gentlemen happened in the Vaudeville saloon, on Royal street, and grew out of a remark made by Capt. Sambola reflecting upon the parties present, after some one had ill-treated the Captain's hat by smashing it out of shape. Major Cain, under the impression that he was personally attacked by Capt. Sambola's expressions, advanced and replied to the Captain.

The result of the discussion not being satisfactory, a challenge was sent the next day to Major Cain, who promptly accepted it. Both parties were arrested before evening, taken before Judge Miltenberger's court and put under bonds to keep the peace in this State.

It was generally believed that the misunderstanding had not yet been settled, and rumor was that Major Cain had been called upon by friends of Capt. Sambola for an apology, which was not furnished.

A rencontre was considered imminent, and the surmises on the affair proved correct, for by the Mobile train yesterday morning Capt. Sambola and Major Cain, accompanied by their seconds, left for Biloxi to settle the affair on the field of honor. Capt. Sambola was represented by Col. A. J. Bachemin and Capt. Armand Selles, and Major Cain's sponsors were Capt. Valsin Guillotte and Capt. Ed. Aucoin. Drs. Hava and Beard accompanied them.

The party, on arriving at Biloxi, stopped at the Montross House, and after a reasonable delay, in order not to excite suspicion or curiosity, strolled towards the lighthouse and chose a convenient locality on the beach.

Colt's navy sixes were used, and the distance was twelve paces. The principals were quite calm and collected, and throughout the ordeal behaved most bravely and creditably.

At the usual signal both fired at the same time, and it was found that no one had been touched.

The seconds then held a consulation, and came to the unanimous conclusion that as the cause of the duel was clearly a misunderstanding and did not give rise to any direct insult, and as the principals had shown their courage under the first fire, that honor was satisfied, and the whilom enemies should make friends. This was done and the usual handshaking gone through. The party then returned to the Montross House and whiled away most pleasantly in social conversation, with feet under the table, the gap of time separating the now forgotten occurrence with the arrival of the train to New Orleans.

At the depot the principals were warmly greeted by a large concourse of friends.

AMUSEMENTS.

Academy of Music.

The Barlow, Wilson, Primrose and West Minstrel Combination closed a very successful engagement last night. During its stay the company has made many friends, and leave the city with the endorsement of the theatre-going public, that it is the best show of the kind which has struck the town in years.

To-night Haverly's New York Juvenile Opera Company open for a short season in Pinafore. The company has received the encomiums of the critics wherever it has appeared; and this, taken in connection with the fact that the combination is under the control of Haverly, who never puts a bad thing on the road, is a guarantee that the performance will be something superior.

THE MIDGETS.

Major Atom and Gen. Mite appear for the last time this season at the St. Charles to-day. The little men have made hosts of friends in the city, and it is safe to say that each of the receptions will be largely attended. The hours to-day are the same as usual, from 10 to 12, 2 to 4, and 7 to 9 o'clock.

LADIES' FAIR.

The fair for the benefit of the new Church of the Sacred Heart opened last night at the hall on Canal street, corner of Claiborne. The tables were found to be tastefully and elegantly arranged, and were attended by numbers of fair ladies. The attendance was good for an opening night, and the receipts were encouraging.

The fair is given for the purpose of raising sufficient money to free the new Church of the Sacred Heart of debt. The object is a worthy one, and as the attractions of the entertainment are many, there should be a large attendance each night.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

The Pirates took their Sunday privilege last night and remained idle, but only to start in this evening with renewed vigor. We are informed that Miss Laura Joyce has recovered from her illness and will appear to-night on the boards.

THE BENEFIT CONCERT.

The entertainment for the benefit of the Irish relief fund, which has been so earnestly urged by many prominent citizens, will take place next Wednesday evening at the St. Charles Theatre. It will be a concert pre-eminently, and a notable feature of it will be the singing of Irish melodies. There will, in addition, be recitations and the reading of original poems, making in all an entertainment of very high promise, which will be, doubtless, well patronized.

The whole will be under the direction of that accomplished musician Prof. Blake.

THE ROWING RACE.

The race between Sullivan and Plaisted is announced to come off at the New Lake End this evening between 3 and 5 o'clock. An exciting contest is anticipated, and much interest is manifested in the event.

JOSEPH EDGARD MONTEGUT.

Last evening a large concourse of sorrowing friends assembled at the residence of Mr. Armand Pitot, on Rampart street, to pay the last duties to an old and esteemed citizen of New Orleans, Mr. Joseph Edgard Montegut. Most of us have known this fine old gentleman, a true representative of the old creole race, highly educated, polished in manners, tender as a woman, unflinching in resolution and fearless throughout the journey of life. He died at the advanced age of seventy-four years, and up to a few days before his death was as hale and hearty as if the frosts of many winters had agreed with his healthful temperament and warmed his life blood as they silvered his hair. About thirty years ago Mr. Montegut occupied the position of Mayor of New Orleans, and acquired in the fulfillment of the duties of his office a lasting reputation for intelligence, firmness and integrity.

He has never since, as far as we know, occupied any public station, but was universally known and recognized as a gentleman of fine business ability, sympathetic of contact and pleasant of intercourse. His many friends sincerely deplore his loss.

ST. PATRICK'S TOMBOLA.

Last evening the grand raffle for the many valuable articles left undisposed of at the recent fair for the benefit of St. Patrick's Church was commenced in the hall adjoining St. Patrick's parsonage. The hall was very handsomely decorated and the tables laden with choice viands which pleasingly greeted the eye and set the appetite on edge. The entertainment will be continued this evening and close to-morrow, when all the articles will have been disposed of. Apart from the material chances incident to a visit, the entertainment possesses all the elements of the highest and keenest enjoyment.

A Severe Fall.

Between 8 and 9 o'clock Sunday morning, a white man named Fred Fisher, while at work on board a bark loading at the Gretna Warehouse, accidentally fell into the hold, broke his right arm and fractured his skull. He was brought to his residence on Seventh, between Fulton and Tchoupitoulas, and thence sent to the Hospital.